AGENDA ITEM
CA15

AGENDA PLACEMENT FORM

Send to: ccagenda@johnsoncountytx.org

Date: 08-03-2026

Meeting Date:

Submitted By: Kaylee Hill

Department: District Clerk

Signature of Elected Official/Department Head:

Court Decision:
This section to be completed by County Judge's Office

Johnson County ★ APPROVED ★ Commissioners Court

8.24.2026

Description:

Consider and Approve Texas Official Bond and Oath for District Clerk for Will F. Keeton; with Authorization for County Judge to Sign- County Judge's Office

(May attach additional sheets if necessary)

Person to Present: _____

(Presenter must be present for the item unless the item is on the Consent Agenda)

Supporting Documentation: (check one) ☐ PUBLIC ☐ CONFIDENTIAL

(PUBLIC documentation may be made available to the public prior to the Meeting)

Estimated Length of Presentation: _____ minutes

Session Requested: (check one)

☐ Action Item ☑ Consent ☐ Workshop ☐ Executive ☐ Public Announcement

Check All Departments That Have Been Notified:

☐ County Attorney ☐ IT ☐ Purchasing ☐ Auditor

☐ Personnel ☐ Development Services ☐ Facilities Management

Other Department/Official (list) _____

Please List All External Persons Who Need a Copy of Signed Documents In Your Submission Email

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY™

MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC. P.O. BOX 14498, DES MOINES, IA 50306-3498
PHONE: (800) 678-8171 FAX: (515) 243-3854

TEXAS OFFICIAL BOND AND OATH FOR DISTRICT CLERK

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of Johnson

Bond No. 101929455

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, Will F Keeton, as Principal, and the Merchants National Bonding, Inc., a corporation duly licensed to do business in the State of Texas, as Surety, are held and firmly bound unto the Governor of the State of Texas, his/her successors in office, in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.00).

THE CONDITION OF THE ABOVE OBLIGATION is such, that, whereas, the above bounden Principal was on the 1st day of August, 2026, duly Appointed to the office of District Clerk in and for the County of Johnson the State of Texas, for a term commencing on the 1st day of August, 2026 and expiring on the 31st day of December, 2026.

Now, therefore, if the said Principal shall faithfully perform the duties of the office, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that regardless of the number of years this bond may remain in force and the number of claims which may be made against this bond, the liability of the Surety shall not be cumulative and the aggregate liability of the Surety for any and all claims, suits, or actions under this bond shall not exceed the amount stated above. Any revision of the bond amount shall not be cumulative.

PROVIDED, FURTHER, that this bond may be canceled by the Surety by sending written notice to the party to whom this bond is payable stating that, not less than thirty (30) days thereafter, the Surety's liability hereunder shall terminate as to subsequent acts of the Principal.

Dated this 1st day of July, 2026.

Will F Keeton
Principal

By: Will F. Keeton

Merchants National Bonding, Inc.

By: Caitlin Kelley
Caitlin Kelley Attorney-in-Fact

PAULA REID NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TEXAS ID 13005234-2 Exp. 12/12/26

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PRINCIPAL

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of Johnson

Before me, Paula Reid, a notary public, on this day personally appeared Will Keeton known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at Cleburne, TX

this 30th day of July, 2026.

Paula Reid

PO 0148 TX (2/15)

Johnson County, Texas.

OATH OF OFFICE
(General)

I, Will F. Kecton, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of District Clerk, of the State of Texas, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State; and I furthermore solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have not directly nor indirectly paid, offered, or promised to pay, contributed, nor promised to contribute any money, or valuable thing, or promised any public office or employment, as a reward for the giving or withholding a vote at the election at which I was elected. So help me God.

Signed Will F. Kecton

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Johnson County, Texas, this 3rd day of August, 2026.

[signature]

SEAL

Judge Tiffany Strother 249th Judicial District State of Texas

Johnson County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS
County of Johnson } ss

The foregoing bond of Will F. Kecton as District Clerk in and for Johnson County and State of Texas, this day approved in open Commissioner's Court.

ATTEST: April Rung Clerk
County Court Johnson County

COMMISSIONERS COURT JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS

Date August 24, 2026
[signature] County Judge,
Johnson County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS
County of Johnson } ss

I, _____, County Clerk, in and for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing Bond dated the _____ day of _____, _____, with its certificates of authentication, was filed for record in my office the _____ day of _____, _____, at _____ o'clock ____ M., and duly recorded the _____ day of _____, _____, at _____ o'clock ____ M., in the Records of Official Bonds of said County in Volume _____, on page _____.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the County Court of said County, at office in _____, Texas, the day and year last above written.

_____ Clerk

By _____ Deputy

County Court _____ County

PO 0148 TX (2/15)

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY™

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know All Persons By These Presents, that MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., both being corporations of the State of Iowa, and MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY , an assumed name of Merchants National Bonding, Inc., (herein collectively called the "Companies") do hereby make, constitute and appoint, individually,

Caitlin Kelley

their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, to sign its name as surety(ies) and to execute, seal and acknowledge any and all bonds, undertakings, contracts and other written instruments in the nature thereof, on behalf of the Companies in their business of guaranteeing the fidelity of persons, guaranteeing the performance of contracts and executing or guaranteeing bonds and undertakings required or permitted in any actions or proceedings allowed by law.

This Power-of-Attorney is granted and is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by authority of the By-Laws adopted by the Board of Directors of the Companies.

"The President, Secretary, Treasurer, or any Assistant Treasurer or any Assistant Secretary or any Vice President shall have power and authority to appoint Attorneys-in-Fact, and to authorize them to execute on behalf of the Company, and attach the seal of the Company thereto, bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof."

"The signature of any authorized officer and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile or electronic transmission to any Power of Attorney or Certification thereof authorizing the execution and delivery of any bond, undertaking, recognizance, or other suretyship obligations of the Company, and such signature and seal when so used shall have the same force and effect as though manually fixed."

In connection with obligations in favor of the Florida Department of Transportation only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact includes any and all consents for the release of retained percentages and/or final estimates on engineering and construction contracts required by the State of Florida Department of Transportation. It is fully understood that consenting to the State of Florida Department of Transportation making payment of the final estimate to the Contractor and/or its assignee, shall not relieve this surety company of any of its obligations under its bond.

In connection with obligations in favor of the Kentucky Department of Highways only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact cannot be modified or revoked unless prior written personal notice of such intent has been given to the Commissioner - Department of Highways of the Commonwealth of Kentucky at least thirty (30) days prior to the modification or revocation.

In Witness Whereof, the Companies have caused this instrument to be signed and sealed this 1st day of July , 2026 .

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) INCORPORATED -o- 1933

MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC. INCORPORATED -o- 2003

MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY CALIFORNIA

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL)
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.
MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY

By Larry Taylor

President

STATE OF IOWA
COUNTY OF DALLAS ss.

On this 1st day of July 2026 , before me appeared Larry Taylor, to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn did say that he is President of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., and MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY; and that the seals affixed to the foregoing instrument are the Corporate Seals of the Companies; and that the said instrument was signed and sealed in behalf of the Companies by authority of their respective Boards of Directors.

NOTARIAL SEAL IOWA

Penni Miller
Commission Number 787952
My Commission Expires
January 20, 2027

Notary Public

(Expiration of notary's commission does not invalidate this instrument)

I, Elisabeth Sandersfeld, Secretary of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., and MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the POWER-OF-ATTORNEY executed by said Companies, which is still in full force and effect and has not been amended or revoked.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Companies on this 1st day of July , 2026 .

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) INCORPORATED -o- 1933

MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC. INCORPORATED -o- 2003

MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY CALIFORNIA

Secretary

POA 0018 (5/25)

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY™

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PHONE: (800) 678-8171 FAX: (515) 243-3854

NOTICE TO BOND HOLDER – RETAIN THIS PAGE FOR YOUR RECORDS

Have a complaint or need help?

If you have a problem with a claim or your premium, call your insurance company or HMO first. If you can't work out the issue, the Texas Department of Insurance may be able to help.

Even if you file a complaint with the Texas Department of Insurance, you should also file a complaint or appeal through your insurance company or HMO. If you don't, you may lose your right to appeal.

To get information or file a complaint with your insurance company or HMO:

Merchants National Bonding, Inc.

Call: Compliance Officer at (800) 678-8171
Toll-free: (800) 678-8171
Email: regulatory@merchantsbonding.com
Mail: P.O. Box 14498, Des Moines, IA 50306-3498

To get insurance information, you may also contact your agent:

Higginbotham Insurance Agency Inc

Call: (817) 336-2377

Mail: PO Box 908 Fort Worth, TX 76101

The Texas Department of Insurance

To get help with an insurance question or file a complaint with the state:

Call with a question: 1-800-252-3439
File a complaint: www.tdi.texas.gov
Email: ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov
Mail: Consumer Protection, MC: CO-CP, Texas Department of Insurance,

¿Tiene una queja o necesita ayuda?

Si tiene un problema con una reclamación o con su prima de seguro, llame primero a su compañía de seguros o HMO. Si no puede resolver el problema, es posible que el Departamento de Seguros de Texas (Texas Department of Insurance, por su nombre en inglés) pueda ayudar.

Aun si usted presenta una queja ante el Departamento de Seguros de Texas, también debe presentar una queja a través del proceso de quejas o de apelaciones de su compañía de seguros o HMO. Si no lo hace, podría perder su derecho para apelar.

Para obtener información o para presentar una queja ante su compañía de seguros o HMO:

Merchants National Bonding, Inc.
Llame a: Compliance Officer al (800) 678-8171
Teléfono gratuito: (800) 678-8171
Correo electrónico: regulatory@merchantsbonding.com
Dirección postal: P.O. Box 14498, Des Moines, IA 50306-3498

El Departamento de Seguros de Texas
Para obtener ayuda con una pregunta relacionada con los seguros o para presentar una queja ante el estado:

Llame con sus preguntas al: 1-800-252-3439
Presente una queja en: www.tdi.texas.gov
Correo electrónico: ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov
Dirección postal: Consumer Protection, MC: CO-CP, Texas Department of Insurance, PO Box 12030, Austin, TX 78711-2030

FILED
2:00 A.M. P.M.
AUG 03 2026
DEAN A. SULLIVAN
DISTRICT CLERK, JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS
BY

ORDER APPOINTING DISTRICT CLERK OF JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, Dean Sullivan was duly appointed as District Clerk of Johnson County by order on July 31, 2025, to hold the office until the office could be filled by election; and

WHEREAS, Dean Sullivan by a letter to Judge William C. Bosworth has stated he is resigning as District Clerk of Johnson County with his last day of work to be July 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2026, Will Keeton was elected in the Republican Party Primary to be the Republican Party Nominee for District Clerk of Johnson County; and

WHEREAS, there was not a candidate on the Democratic Party Primary ballot for the office of District Clerk of Johnson County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article V, Section 9 of the Texas Constitution and Section 51.301 of the Texas Government Code, the district judges of Johnson County are authorized to appoint a district clerk if a vacancy occurs in the office of district clerk; and

WHEREAS, with Dean Sullivan's resignation a vacancy exists in the office of District Clerk of Johnson County; and

WHEREAS, the district judges of Johnson County have unanimously agreed that Will Keeton, the Republican Party Nominee for District Clerk, should be appointed as District Clerk of Johnson County.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED, that Will Keeton shall be appointed as the District Clerk of Johnson County, Texas effective upon qualifying and giving a bond as required by Sections 51.301 and 51.302 of the Texas Government Code and shall hold the office until the office can be filled by election.

Signed this the 28 day of July, 2026.

William C. Bosworth, District Judge
413th Judicial District, and
Local Administrative Judge

Sydney Hewlett, District Judge
18th Judicial District

Tiffany Strother, District Judge
249th Judicial District

VG-24-2026-132

Johnson County
April Long
Johnson County Clerk

Instrument Number: 2026 - 132

Bonds, Oaths, Deputations

Recorded On: August 27, 2026 02:53 PM

Number of Pages: 5

" Examined and Charged as Follows: "

Total Recording: $0.00

********** **THIS PAGE IS PART OF THE INSTRUMENT** **********
Any provision herein which restricts the Sale, Rental or use of the described REAL PROPERTY because of color or race is invalid and unenforceable under federal law.

File Information:

Document Number:	2026 - 132
Receipt Number:	20260827000136
Recorded Date/Time:	August 27, 2026 02:53 PM
User:	Tami T
Station:	CCL58LT

Record and Return To:

JOHNSON COUNTY

COUNTY COURT JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS

STATE OF TEXAS
Johnson County
I hereby certify that this Instrument was filed in the File Number sequence on the date/time printed hereon, and was duly recorded in the Official Records of Johnson County, Texas

April Long
Johnson County Clerk
Johnson County, TX

April Long